

## ABSTRACT

A pharmaceutical composition comprising as active ingredient (A) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:16 or a functionally equivalent variant of the amino acid sequence; or (B) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide (A); or (C) an antibody which is immunoreactive with the polypeptide (A); or (D) an antisense oligonucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to that of polynucleotide (B); and the use of (A), (B), (C) and (D) in diagnostic and therapeutic applications.